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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

Not Yet Assigned

Applicant

Makoto ISHIDA et al.

Filed

Vi,

Concurrently Herewith

Title

GLAND PACKING

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20 November 2003

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20 November 2002

MAIL STOP PCT Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.